

EXHIBIT 8  
DATE 1/9/07  
SB HB 2

Testimony SB 2  
Montana State Library Budget

Dear Chairman Wells and members of the committee:

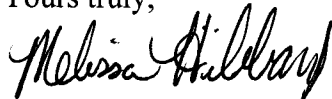
For the record, my name is Melissa Hibbard and I am a senior at Carroll College. I am currently working on my Senior Honors Thesis. One professor I am working with on this project is Dr. Robert Swartout, who received the Educational Excellence Award from the Montana Historical Society Board of Trustees last fall for his contribution to Montana history through research, teaching, publishing and public outreach.

I am here to speak in support of the request to include OCLC in the Montana State Library's budget. I use the OCLC service a great deal to conduct research for my thesis topic which is Palestinian paratroopers employed during World War II. Through the service I am able to identify books required for my research that my college library does not own. The vast majority of my secondary sources have been attained through this service. Once I locate certain titles on the OCLC search, I can easily mark them and send a request directly to the Corrette Library for interlibrary loan (ILL). The library's Interlibrary Loan office identifies who owns the materials and sends an request to the appropriate libraries. I then receive the book in approximately one week's time. When the book is due back, I simply return it to Corrette Library.

I also use the databases at available at the Corrette Library. One database is InfoTrac which you heard Michelle Logan speak about in her testimony. Through services like that I identify articles for my research, simply fill in an ILL form and submit it to the librarian. She identifies who owns the journal and sends an ILL request via OCLC. Once again, I usually receive the articles within one to two weeks. These articles are then mine to keep.

Without OCLC, conducting research at Carroll College would be extremely difficult the result would be very poor and many critical materials would be virtually unattainable. I urge you to consider this request.

Yours truly,



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